



State of Utah

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*State Fire Marshal*

# Smoke Alarm Safety

*National Fire Prevention Week Continues Through Oct. 9*

October 8, 2010

### Contact:

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A Spanish Fork man suddenly lost his life in a house fire this week. Fires can start quickly and spread fast so every second counts. The State Fire Marshal strongly encourages everyone to check their smoke alarms tonight to make sure they are all functioning. Check your smoke alarms at least once a month to make sure they are in good working order. Have an escape plan that includes one place in front of where you live where everyone will meet and wait for help. Make sure everyone in your home knows how to escape and where to meet. If someone in your home may need assistance to escape, include that in your plan.

"Sometimes when there is a false alarm, people take out the battery on their smoke alarm and forget to put them back in or put the batter in backwards so it is not connected and forget to turn it back around," said Monica Colby, Deputy State Fire Marshal - Public Education Specialist. "Using a smoke alarm with a silence button can help and so can moving the smoke alarm farther from the stove or using a photoelectric smoke alarm to prevent false alarms from cooking."

There are smoke alarms with silencing features so that you can quickly quiet a false alarm. As long as the smoke levels reduce, the alarm will not sound again. If the smoke remains at deadly levels it will alarm again warning you to get out immediately.

To prevent common false alarms from cooking, try moving the alarm farther from the cooking appliance or using a photoelectric smoke alarm which is less likely to sound from light, accidental smoke from cooking.

[Smoke Alarm Safety \(English\)](#)

[Smoke Alarm Safety \(Spanish\)](#)